

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.(original) An item of equipment (1) for a motor vehicle, of the type comprising a rigid supporting reinforcement (5) and a flexible padding (7) covering the outer face (9) of the supporting reinforcement, the padding having an outer covering skin (17), wherein the padding has projections (19, 27) that are made in one piece with the outer skin (17) and that rest on the outer face (9) of the supporting reinforcement (5), and wherein the projections (19, 27) delimit between them deforming spaces (21) of the padding to give it its flexibility.

2.(original) The item of equipment as claimed in claim 1, wherein it includes means (31, 33, 35, 37) for attaching the padding (7) onto the supporting reinforcement (5).

3.(original) The item of equipment as claimed in claim 2, wherein the means of attachment comprise snap-on devices (31, 33, 35, 37).

4.(currently amended) The item of equipment as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein a housing (15) for accommodating a movable device (17) is provided in the supporting reinforcement (5).

5.(original) The item of equipment as claimed in claim 4, wherein a movable device (17) for controlling an accessory of the motor vehicle is accommodated in the housing (15).

6.(original) The item of equipment as claimed in claim 5, wherein at least one projection (27) of the padding (7) rests on the control device (17), and wherein said projection (27) is separated from the projections (19) of the padding (7) that rest on the supporting reinforcement (5) around the housing (15).

7.(currently amended) The item of equipment as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the projections are ribs (19, 27) and wherein the deforming spaces are cells (21) delimited between the ribs (19, 27).

8.(currently amended) The item of equipment as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein it includes means (39) for putting the spaces (21) into communication with each other and/or with the outside atmosphere.

9.(currently amended) The item of equipment as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein it constitutes a dashboard of a motor vehicle.

10.(currently amended) A motor vehicle having an item of equipment (1), wherein the item of equipment is an item according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1.